



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2797

JOSEPH E. KERNAN
GOVERNOR

October 7, 2003

Mr. Thomas V. Skinner
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Skinner:

Indiana is committed to the goals of the federal Clean Air Act and to working towards clean air for all Hoosiers.

Today, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is forwarding its update to the July 15, 2003, recommendations for attainment designations with respect to the new eight-hour ozone health standard under separate cover.

On July 15, 2003, Governor O'Bannon strongly urged EPA to provide as much flexibility as allowed by the federal Clean Air Act to avoid the imposition of measures that may harm economic development in situations in which Indiana and others have already taken appropriate measures to ensure healthy air.

As a new Governor for the State, I want to reiterate Governor O'Bannon's concerns. It is apparent that Indiana has already put in place clean air measures that will address any eight-hour ozone nonattainment issues for most of Indiana, including the Evansville, Terre Haute, Fort Wayne, South Bend/Elkhart metropolitan areas and other more rural areas of our state. EPA should not take any step that will result in the mandatory imposition of unnecessary ozone control measures for these areas of the state until such time as it is shown, no earlier than 2007, that the existing ozone control measures will not be enough to meet the health standard.

I am confident that we can continue to work together to ensure that appropriate final decisions are made next year on the attainment status for all of Indiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph E. Kernan".
Joseph E. Kernan
Governor

LFK/jgm/sad
Attachments

cc: Lori Kaplan, Commissioner IDEM